

References

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Is the Large Ear *Amphipoea lucens* (Freyer) (Lep.: Noctuidae) resident in south-east England?

On 9 August 1986, Mr A. Pearson boxed a noctuid he found resting on a light aboard the Hook of Holland to Harwich ferry, which had just docked at the Essex port, following an overnight crossing. Upon dissection I found this to be *A. lucens*, and at the time thought it may have been an example originating from stock resident along the coast of Holland, which had then hitched a lift on the ship. The species was hesitantly added to the Essex list as a Vagrant/Introduction.

Then, on 31 August 1997, Mr I. C. Rose at Mistley (14 kilometres to the west of Harwich) took an *Amphipoea* specimen, which he thought might be *A. fucosa* Freyer, but which proved to be a second *A. lucens*. I would urge recorders in East Anglia and south-east England to dissect any examples of *Amphipoea* adults which are found away from known *A. fucosa* and *A. oculea* L. colonies to help clarify its status in the area.—BRIAN GOODEY, 298 Ipswich Road, Colchester, Essex CO4 4ET.

Cypress Carpet *Thera cupressata* Geyer (Lep.: Geometridae) new to Devon

A single specimen of *Thera cupressata* was taken in the garden of Devon Moth Group member P. Franghiadi at Dawlish on 23 November 1999; the identity of the voucher specimen being verified by myself. This species was first discovered in Britain in the Swanage area of Dorset and it has since spread eastwards into Hampshire. The moth was in good condition and, in providing the first record of the species for Devon, its presence suggests that a westwards range expansion has also taken place.—ROY MCCORMICK, 36 Paradise Road, Teignmouth, Devon TQ14 8NR.